

Serial No. 09/777,091

PATENT

Claim 1

Support for the limitation of the support frame and it's ability to expand and conform to a wall of the bodily passage is found in a number of places in the specification, including page 12, line 3 through page 13, line 26. The pathway (at least partially longitudinally along the wall and at least partially circumferentially around the wall) is the same as the pathway of the outer edge of the leaflet to which the frame is attached. Support for that is found in original claim 1. Support for the plurality of side elements is found in page 11, lines 1-4. Support for the attachment of the outer edge of the leaflet to the side element (frame) can be found in a number of places, including page 21 lines 14-21 and page 22, line 25 through page 25, line 4.

Claim 5

The support for the attachment of the leaflets to the wire frame is found in the same portions of the specification as discussed for claim 1.

Claims 6,10

Support for 'plurality of leaflets' is found throughout the specification, including claim 1 and page 3, lines 11-12.

Claim 19

Support for trapping fluid in one direction is found on page 16, line 5. Support for restricting fluid flow in the second direction is found on page 6, lines 22-27.

Claim 36

Support for a fluid-trapping 'curved structure' is found on page 16, lines 1-3.

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Claim 46

Support for the amended language of claim 46 is found in original claim 1 and in portions of the specification identified under the discussion of claim 1 above.

Claim 47

Support for the amended language of claim 47 is as described for claim 19.

Claim 50

The claim language is similar to that found in the originally filed claims. Limitations expressed in new language include 'radial force' (page 19, lines 23-26), 'serpentine configuration' (page 6, lines 2-4), and 'inner edges . . . traverse the vessel lumen' (page 3, line 21-22).

Claim 51

All language is either present in other claims or the support thereof discussed above.

Claim 52

Support for "'V' or 'U' shape" is found on page 20, line 8.

Claims 53-54

The basic language is found in original claims 33 and 34, respectively.

Claim 55

The basic language of this claim is found in original claims (or support identified above) except for 'engage wall of bodily passage therearound and provide ingrowth of adjacent native tissue into the extracellular collagen matrix' for which support is found on page 24, line 20 to page 25, line 4. Although this